vation.

Mr. LITTLEWOOD concur.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

The MEDICAL OFFICER'S ann[illegible] was then read as follows:—

"Milton, January, 1901.

"Gentlemen,—In submitting to you my report of the health of Milton for the year 1900, I may say that, in spite of an undue prevalence of infectious disease, principally diphtheria, the health of the town remains fairly good.

"*Deaths.*—162 deaths occurred during the year: 98 in the town and 64 in the Milton Workhouse. Of the latter number only 26 were Milton inhabitants.

"*Death Rate.*—The death rate for the town is 13.6; including those who died in the Workhouse belonging to Milton, 17.2. It should be noticed that the number of deaths under one year has diminished; the greater number occurring in people over 65 years.

"*Births.*—The births number 207—males 96, females 111.

"*Notifications.*—There has been, I regret to say, an increase in the number of infectious diseases usually notified. They are as follows:—Diphtheria 53, enteric 36, scarlet fever 21, erysipelas 1, membranous croup 1.

"*Scarlet Fever.*—21 cases of this disease have been notified. These occurred in various parts of the town. The type was of a very mild kind, no fatal case being recorded. In spite of warning and advice, some of the cases were treated at their own homes to the danger of the community.

"*Diphtheria.*—53 cases of this disease have been notified, with four deaths, one of which happened in the district and three at the Keycol Hill Hospital. The cases were reported from all parts of the district. The disease has been prevalent throughout the year, hardly a week passing without a case being reported. This insidious, and in many ways mysterious, disease seems latterly to have been present in nearly all parts of England, attacking all members of the community, high and low, and, though it is known to be produced by a specific germ, and especially liable to attack children of school age, how it originates and whether the germs grow in virulency are questions by no means settled. Experience, however, teaches that the disease is best combatted by early isolation and treatment. Unfortunately, owing to the over-crowded state of our Infectious Hospital, this has not always been possible, and at times the disease has made headway. It is to be hoped, now that our Infectious Hospital is going to be enlarged, that a similar state of things will not recur. As far as one could judge, the majority of the cases were attributable to contact with an infected school-mate, or some person from an infected house.

"*Enteric.*—36 cases of this disease have been notified. There were ten deaths—three taking place in the district, and seven at Keycol Hill Hospital. Each case as far as possible has been thoroughly investigated, with a view to discover the cause, but this has not always been an easy matter, as some of the patients worked away from home and it was not possible to trace their movements. In very few cases were local conditions at fault, but drinking polluted water from streams, and want of care in washing after working in rough stuff, seemed to be likely causes in some cases.

"*Measles and Whooping Cough.*—During the summer a number of cases of measles was reported from one of the schools, and, to prevent an epidemic, it was deemed advisable to close the school. This measure was quite successful. No fatal case was recorded. Whooping cough was responsible for five deaths, principally from complications, such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

"*Erysipelas.*—Only one case was reported.

"*Inspections.*—A general inspection of the various districts of the town was made. The Sanitary Inspector reported having paid a number of visits in connection with blocked and defective drains, defective sanitary fittings, over-filled cesspools, and faulty pavings. Sixty notices were also issued with regard to accumulations and removals of manure. The dairies, cowsheds, slaughter-houses, and bakeries were periodically inspected; they were found generally cleanly, and in a sanitary and wholesome condition. The tallow manufactory and fellmonger's were also visited: the premises were found cleanly and kept in an orderly manner. Although bad odours were occasionally noticed, these trades appeared to be carried on in as inoffensive a manner as possible.

"*Lodging-Houses.*—The lodging-houses are under constant observation; they are mostly well kept, well lime-whited, ventilated, and cleanly. The managers are careful to prevent overcrowding, and generally report any suspicious case of illness.

"*Old and New Houses.*—A great number of new houses have been recently built. They are for the most part airy and roomy, and satisfy all modern sanitary requirements. Several old houses in the town had to be closed, as they were found to be structurally unsound and unfit for habitation. Several cases of over-crowding in small rooms were reported, but on cautioning the offenders this was soon discontinued.

"*Gratings.*—Complaints have again been received about the smells emanating from the gratings in the roads ventilating the sewers, and several of these gratings have been closed—this of course intensifying any odour that came from those remaining open. This, in my opinion, is a retrograde step and calculated to increase the nuisance complained of. Either the system should be thoroughly carried out or another system adopted.

"*Manure Wharfs.*—The manure wharfs and the cartage of manure through the town caused a good many complaints, and some discussion, ending in a petition being sent to the Local Government Board. I have reported at some length to that body and made some suggestions, and we can only hope that sanction may be obtained to modify the present by-laws in such a way that the nuisance complained of may be abated.

"*Sanitary Measures.*—An event of considerable importance to the town of Milton was the formation, in January, 1900, of a Conservancy Board to deal with matters connected with the Creek. As the Board possesses ample powers, we may fairly hope that, before long, it will insist on the purification of our Creek being carried out, thereby making it a bright, clear, and wholesome waterway.

"The Sewage Disposal Works which were begun in the early part of the year have, in spite of many difficulties, made good progress, and are now nearing completion. By a satisfactory disposal of our sewage (always a difficult problem), and by preventing further pollution of the Creek as far as Milton is concerned, these works should prove, all being well, of inestimable value.

"*Conclusion.*—In conclusion allow me to congratulate the Council on having dealt with so many important sanitary questions during the year, and to sincerely hope that they will turn out successfully, and tend to promote the health and general welfare of our town.

"E. J. MARMION, M.O.H."

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SITTINGBO RTNIGHTLY STOCK SALE.

MR. F. AUSTEN BENSTED

WILL hold his NEXT SALE at the Market Meadow, Sittingbourne, on Monday, February 11th, 1901.

35

FAT BEASTS,

250

FAT SHEEP,

85

FAT PIGS.

ALSO

CHESTNUT MARE, "Diamond," 7 years old.

VAN HORSE.

ALSO

TWO HORSES,

TWO COAL VANS,

TWO SETS OF HARNESS,

CHAFF CUTTER,

COAL SCALES AND WEIGHTS,

To be Sold immediately after the Market.

The Lawn, Sittingbourne.

MESSRS.

CHAMPION, AMBROSE, & FOSTER,

AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS, AND ESTATE AGENTS.

AUCTION SALES of LAND and House Property, Farming Stock, Furniture, Growing Crops of Fruit, &c., &c.

A WEEKLY AUCTION at Maidstone Cattle Market of FAT STOCK, HORSES, VEHICLES, &c.

(Accounts made up, and cheques posted on day of sale).

Philip Champion, Rookery Farm, Snodland.
Alfred Ambrose, Bell Farm, Harrietsham.
H. H. Foster, Little Cossington, Aylesford.

MESSRS.

CHAMPION, AMBROSE, & FOSTER.

SALES arranged, for which Entries are solicited:—

Feb. 13.—Maidstone Candlemas Fair, STORE STOCK, HORSES, VEHICLES, &c.

March 7.—Maidstone, HAY, STRAW, ROOTS, &c., at the Star Hotel, at Three p m. precisely.

March 21. — Maidstone, STORE STOCK, HORSES, VEHICLES, &c., at the Lock Meadow, at Eleven o'clock.

April 11. — Maidstone, STORE STOCK, HORSES, VEHICLES, &c., at the Lock Meadow, at Eleven o'clock.

CANDLEMAS FAIR, MAIDSTONE,

February 13th, 1901.

MESSRS.

CHAMPION, AMBROSE, & FOSTER

WILL hold an AUCTION SALE of STORE STOCK, HORSES, VEHICLES, IMPLEMENTS, &c., in the Lock Meadow, on the above date, at Eleven o'clock.

200

EXCELLENT KENT, DOWN & HALF-BRED TEGS,

100

TWO-YEAR-OLD MAIDS AND WETHERS (Forward in Condition),

10

VALUABLE NAG AND CART HORSES,

15

HOME-BRED STEERS AND HEIFERS,

Already Entered.

Further Entries are solicited, and may be addressed to the Auctioneers, as above.

HAY SALE.

MESSRS.

CHAMPION, AMBROSE, & FOSTER

WILL hold an AUCTION SALE of HAY, STRAW, ROOTS, &c., at the Star Hotel, Maidstone, on Thursday, March 7th, at Three o'clock.

ABOUT **200** TONS

SEED AND MEADOW HAY,

AND **30** TONS

MANGOLD WURTZEL

Already Entered.

Further Entries are solicited, and may be addressed to the Auctioneers, as above.

Educational

PARISIAN LADY (diplomée) requires Pupils for Private Lessons; conversations. Address, Mademoiselle Vigneau, New House, Milton.

MISS HIDER,

Fully Certificated Art Class Teacher, Science and Art Department, London, and

Assista[illegible]

Milton

ed.
ANNUAL REPORT.
nual report

British Medical Association Library,
429, Strand,
London, W.C.

February. 1901.

Dear Sir,

May I on behalf of the Library Committee, and in accordance with my usual custom, venture to ask if you will have the kindness to forward me a copy of your Report as Medical Officer of Health for the past year?

As it is desired that these Reports may be kept for purposes of reference, I shall feel further much obliged if you will be good enough to favour me by continuing to do so every year.

Thanking you for acceding to my requests in past years,

I am, dear Sir,

Faithfully yours,

The Librarian.